

#2/A
11-4-01
M.L.

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Kothuri et al.

: Attorney Docket: 19111.0035

Serial No.: to be assigned

: Art unit: to be assigned

Filed: herewith

: Examiner: to be assigned

Title: NEAREST NEIGHBOR QUERY PROCESSING IN A LINEAR QUADTREE SPATIAL INDEX

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Please amend the claims as follows:

[6] 5. The method according to claim 3, further comprising removing duplicate neighbors from the result.

[7] 6. The method according to claim 3, further comprising:
retaining only the target number of neighbors if more than the target number of neighbors is found and terminating the searching process.

[8] 7. A method for locating neighbor objects of a query object in a database, the method comprising: